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#### MECHANICS.

66. Proposed by B. F. FINKEL, A. M., M.Sc., Professor of Mathematics and Physics, Drury College. Springfield, Mo.

A conical stick of timber, length a, radius of base r, and density  $\delta$ , is depressed, apex downward, in a liquid, density  $\delta'$ , so that the base is just level with the liquid. If left free to rise, required the greatest altitude to which it will ascend.

67. Proposed by G. B. M. ZERR, A. M., Ph. D., President and Professor of Mathematics, The Russell College, Lebanon, Va.

Find the horizontal and vertical components of the moon's "disturbing force" for any point on the earth's surface making an angle  $\varphi$  with the line joining the center of the earth to the center of the moon.

\*\* Solutions of these problems should be sent to B. F. Finkel, not later than June 10.

#### AVERAGE AND PROBABILITY.

### 63. Proposed by COL. CLARKE.

Three points are taken at random, one on each of the three faces of a tetrahedron; what is the chance that a plane passing through them cuts the fourth edge?

[From Williamson's Integral Calculus, page 410.]

#### 64. Proposed by Rev. W. A. WHITWORTH, A. M.

O is a given point within a triangle; P is a random point within the same. The line through O and P is produced so as to divide the triangle into a trapezium and a triangle. Find the average area of this triangle. [From the *Educational Times*, London, Eng.]

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## BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

Theoretical and Practical Graphics. By Frederick N. Willson, C. E., A. M., Professor in the School of Science, Princeton University. (Author's Edition) 1897. 4to. Pages viii + 264 + Appendix.

This is a most attractive work, not only conquering graphics entire, but containing much more of highest geometric interest, including a fairly complete course on higher plane curves.

The part of the subject where Church so long held supremacy in America with his Descriptive Geometry justly appreciated for its elegance, is paralleled by Professor Willson in his Chapter I and Chapters IX—XII, 117 pages in all, including 219 figures in the text, where he not only covers with equal conciseness and elegance the matter of Church's 138 pages of text and 21 pages of illustrations (102 figures), but in addition has treated many new and important matters, such as the Conoid of Pluecker (articles 333, 356, 477) a favor-